

Name: _____ Period: _____

Gondwana Puzzle

Introduction: Gondwana is the name given to a supercontinent that is believed to have existed in the past. The continent later broke up into modern Africa, South America, Australia, Antarctica, and India. There is evidence that supports this idea.

Instructions: You will reconstruct the supercontinent Gondwana with the outlines of the continents on the second page. Before you cut out the continent outlines, label the following items on the outlines. These items will have to match up in order to form a correct representation of Gondwana.

1. Fossils of a Mesosaurus were found on the eastern tip of South America. Label this location "A".
2. Ancient coral reefs were found at the southern tip of South America. Label this location "B".
3. Draw an arrow pointing from east to west in the southern most part of Brazil. This arrow represents the direction that ancient glaciers moved.
4. Ancient coral reefs were found along the narrow strip of land of Antarctica. Label this location "B".
5. Coal beds were found along the southern coast of Antarctica. Label this location "C".
6. Petrified palm trees were found along the eastern coast of Antarctica. Label this location "D".
7. Draw an arrow pointing north on the north coast of Antarctica. This arrow represents the direction that ancient glaciers moved.
8. Draw an arrow pointing West in South Africa. This arrow represents the direction that ancient glaciers moved.
9. Fossils of a Mesosaurus were found in Nigeria. Label this location "A".
10. Rare sedimentary rocks were found in Kenya. Label this location "X".
11. Petrified palm trees were found along southwestern edge of India. Label this location "D".
12. Rare sedimentary rocks were found in the northernmost part of India. Label this location "X".
13. Coal beds were found along the southern coast of Australia. Label this location "C".

Cut out the continent outlines. Glue the continents together on the back of this page in a way that all the labeled areas match up with the labels of the other continents.

Question: Explain how coal, petrified palm trees and coral reefs could have formed on frozen Antarctica using the theory of continental drift?